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Today's People

Nixon's Back in Form

Former President Richard M. Nixon, who directed the CIA to perform some questionable deeds during his days in the White House, now says the agency has been "castrated." In an interview with the French magazine Le Point, Nixon said a strengthened CIA would help the nation prevent future terrorist acts such as the seizure of the American hostages in Iran. "The CIA has been castrated," he complained. "It's necessary to give operational methods back to our intelligence service... (so) it doesn't have its hands tied each time action is necessary." Nixon also took a verbal swipe at President Carter, saying that Carter was "a little naive" about the Soviet Union and that his sudden reawakening to the Soviet military threat may be have been caused by election-year politics.